



DOCKETED
USNRC

December 10, 2002 (4:02PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

10

DOCKET NUMBER

PETITION FILE PRM 50-79
(67FR 66588)

Office of the Mayor

The City of Harrisburg

City Government Center
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Harrisburg, PA 17101-1678

Stephen R. Reed

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Mayor

December 3, 2002

Ms. Annette Vietta-Cook, Secretary
U.S. Unclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-001

Re: Petition for Rulemaking filed
by Lawrence T. Christian
(Docket No. PRM-50-79)

Attn: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

This serves to exercise our right to comment regarding the Rulemaking filed under Docket No. PRM-50-79, for which the public comment period ends January 15, 2003.

The City of Harrisburg hereby endorses and supports the proposed rule, the effect of which would be to require that nursery schools and daycare centers be included as a required addition to Radiological Emergency Readiness Plans that are federally mandated and required for municipalities and other governmental entities within the radius area of licensed nuclear power stations.

The exclusion of such facilities in present Radiological Emergency Plans is an omission that is certain to create confusion and chaos in the event that an evacuation would ever be ordered in one of the affected evacuation zones near to a nuclear power station. Parents and others would be attempting to reach the nursery schools and daycare centers, which would almost certainly delay any prospect of their orderly evacuation. Further, nursery schools and daycare centers have thus far generally not put into place any evacuation plan, which means there would be on-site confusion regarding the safety of the children entrusted to these facilities.

It makes common sense to specifically include nursery schools and daycare centers as part of a Radiological Emergency Plan and the proposed Rule to do so is therefore an appropriate addition to such required planning.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen R. Reed
Mayor

SRR:lmh

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